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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/036,995

10/22/2001

Lewis B. Aronson

9775-074-999

5310

7590

04/05/2006

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EXAMINER

BUI, HUNG S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2841

DATE MAILED: 04/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/036,995

Applicant(s)

ARONSON ET AL.

Examiner

Hung S. Bui

Art Unit

2841

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-86 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 58-86 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 26-57 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 14-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9-13 and 21-25 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 01/16/2006.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-8 and 14-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cantrell [US 5,642,264].

Regarding claims 1 and 14, Cantrell discloses a host board system (figures 2 and 6), comprising:

- a host board (203) at least partially positioned within a housing (figure 2) having a set of openings (openings define by a plurality of walls 201, 210, and support frame 211, figure 2), the host board including a set of connectors (205, figure 2);

- each opening in the set of openings being aligned with at least two connectors from the set of connectors (figure 2);

- the each opening configured to accept two modules (601, figure 6) of a first form factor so that each module of the first form factor is aligned and electrically coupled to one of the at least two connectors; and

- the each opening further configured to accept a single module (607, figure 6) of a second form factor so that the single module of the second form factor is aligned and electrically coupled to a first connector of the at least two connectors (figure 6).

Regarding claims 2 and 15, Cantrell discloses the single module of the second form factor preventing electrical coupling with a second connector of the at least two connectors by another module (figure 6).

Regarding claim 3, Cantrell discloses the single module of the second form factor being mechanically coupled to the second connector Of the at least two connectors (figure 6).

Regarding claims 4 and 16, Cantrell discloses a set of inserts (figures 2 and 6), each insert from the set of inserts configured to plug at least a portion of an opening from the set of openings.

Regarding claims 5 and 17, Cantrell discloses a first insert (a first guide rail 255 in a first row) from the set of inserts configured to plug only; the portion of the opening is further configured to accommodate one module of the first form factor (figure 6).

Regarding claims 6 and 18, Cantrell discloses a second insert (a second guide rail 307) from the set of inserts configured to plug only; the portion of the opening is further configured to accommodate two modules of the first form factor (figure 6).

Regarding claims 7 and 19, Cantrell discloses a third insert (301, 303, two guide rails from both side of the opening) from the set of inserts configured to plug only the portion of the opening is further configured to accommodate one module of the second form factor (figure 6, column 5, lines 12-13).

Regarding claims 8 and 20, Cantrell discloses a fourth insert (285, 257, figure 6) from the set of inserts configured to completely plug the opening and prevent insertion of any modules.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 26-57 are allowed.
4. Claims 9-13 and 21-25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The cited references in combination with the prior art of record fail to teach or suggest; a board having a set of connectors being mounted thereon; a set of slots defined on the board being located along an edge of the board; wherein the set of connectors are positioned with respect to the set of slots and wherein the set of slots spaced such that each slot from the set of slots can accommodate a module with the different form factors/sizes.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-57 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Art Unit: 2841

Conclusion

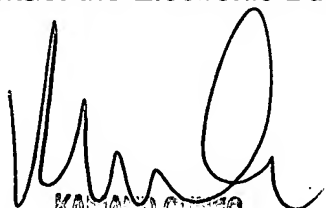
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung S. Bui whose telephone number is (571) 272-2102. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamand Cuneo can be reached on (571) 272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

03/31/2006

Hung Bui

Art Unit 2841


KAMAND CUNEO
SUPERVISOR
TECHNOLOGY CENTER